



## Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2005

**File No. 483**

Senate Bill No. 1139

*Senate, April 21, 2005*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

### **AN ACT CONCERNING THE SOCIAL WORKER JOB CLASSIFICATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1      Section 1. (*Effective October 1, 2005*) The Commissioner of  
2      Administrative Services shall require all persons employed by the state  
3      in the job classification series of social worker, including, but not  
4      limited to, persons who hold the following job titles: Social Worker  
5      Trainee - Health Care Professional; Social Worker Trainee - Social and  
6      Human Services; Social Worker - Social and Human Services; Social  
7      Worker - Health Care Professional; Supervising Medical Social Work  
8      Consultant; Social Worker Supervisor; and Program Supervisor -  
9      Social Work shall have attained a baccalaureate or masters degree in  
10     social work from a social work program accredited by the Council on  
11     Social Work Education. The commissioner shall establish a separate job  
12     title for all persons employed by the state without a baccalaureate or  
13     masters degree in social work who are performing duties related to

14 social work. Nothing in this section shall prevent any person  
15 employed by the state prior to January 1, 2006, with a title in the social  
16 work series of the classified service from using the title to describe or  
17 perform such person's duties in the course of such person's  
18 employment with the state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section

**LAB**      *Joint Favorable C/R*

HS

**HS**      *Joint Favorable C/R*

GAE

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 06 \$	FY 07 \$
Department of Administrative Services	GF - None	None	None
Various State Agencies	GF	See Below	See Below

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill authorizes the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to require all employees in the social worker job classification series to have attained a baccalaureate or masters degree in social work. The bill also requires DAS to establish a separate job title for all state employees without a baccalaureate or masters degree in social work who are performing duties related to social work. DAS can handle the provisions of the bill within available appropriations.

It is unclear whether there would be a state budgetary impact as a result of this bill. To the extent that a wage differential results from the establishment of a new job title there will be a corresponding budgetary impact.

The Department of Children and Families currently has at least 1,998 full-time authorized positions in social worker job classes. An additional 28 part-time staff are employed in these same job classes. Please refer to the following table for further detail.

	Full-Time Authorized	Part Time & Durational
--	-------------------------	---------------------------

		Filled
Social Worker-Social and Human Services	1,428	26
Social Worker Case Aide.	115	
Social Work Supervisor	348	4
Program Supervisor – Social Work	107	
Total	1,998	30

A significant percentage of these employees do not hold bachelors or masters degrees from an accredited social work program.

Other agencies with social workers include (but is not limited to) the Departments of Mental Retardation, Public Health, Veterans' Affairs, Mental Health and Addiction Services, and the Board of Education Services for the Blind.

---

**OLR Bill Analysis**

SB 1139

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE SOCIAL WORKER JOB  
CLASSIFICATION**

**SUMMARY:**

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 12    Nay 1

Human Services Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 16    Nay 0

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 20    Nay 0